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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/074,770	02/12/2002	Dennis Van De Meulenhof	PHNL 010099	7242

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EXAMINER

PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/074,770	Applicant(s) VAN DE MEULENHOF, DENNIS	
	Examiner Ashok B. Patel	Art Unit 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-7 are subject to examination.
2. 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections indicated in paragraphs 4-8 of the previous Office Action have been withdrawn based on the applicant's persuasive arguments.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Staats (US 5, 764, 930).

Referring to claim 1,

Staats teaches a method for executing a re-configuration in a self-configuring digital network after occurrence of a reconfiguration trigger, through upon detecting such trigger, communicating between various physical nodes their respective logical node identifiers and furthermore communicating functionality informations regarding their respective node stations (col. 1, line 30-44," According to the IEEE 1394 Serial Bus Standard, reconfiguration of the serial bus is required when either (1) a new node is joined to the serial bus, or (2) an identified node of the serial bus is removed from the

bus. Reconfiguration is required to better ensure that all nodes of the serial bus are notified of the newly connected or disconnected node and that each node has a unique bus address. Typically, the node of the serial bus that detects a new connection or disconnection forces a three-phase configuration process to be performed by asserting a bus reset signal. The three-phase configuration process, consisting of bus initialization, tree identification and node self identification, typically requires several hundred microseconds to perform, during which time the communications of data between nodes is halted. “),

said method being characterized by, associated to such detecting, recognizing in a particular node such other nodes that before such trigger had been conducting a communication relation with said particular node, through said communicating of logical node identifiers establishing said reconfiguration, (col. 5, line 27-34, “If a bus reset occurs while the bus transaction is pending, the device data records are updated to reflect the new node base addresses. Once the device data records have been updated, the present invention allows previously pending bus transactions to be completed without the original source node driver having to reinitiate the transaction.”), marking all logical node mappings on the various physical nodes as invalid (col. 4, line 45-60, “For an embodiment according to the IEEE 1394 Serial Bus Standard, the destination address for a bus transaction must include a 10-bit bus ID and a 6-bit physical ID of the destination node. The bus ID and the physical ID are both logical addresses within the bus address space. The bus ID uniquely specifies a particular bus within a system of multiple interconnected busses. The physical ID is simply the count

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of the number of times a node passes through the state of receiving self-ID information during the self-identify process following a bus reset or bus initialization before having its own opportunity to send self-ID information. That is, during the self-ID process, the first node sending self-ID packets chooses 0 as its physical ID. The second node chooses 1, and so on. Both the bus ID and the physical ID (and, hence, the destination ID) are subject to change upon each occurrence of a bus reset.”), whilst executing the communicating of said functionality informations on a basis of necessity (col. 4, line 61-67), further wherein whilst in association with said reconfiguration storing an overall network topology in a subset made up of any one or more physical nodes of the network (col. 4, line 61-col. 5, line 2, “It is apparent then, that successful completion of a bus transaction requires that accurate node logical addresses (hereinafter “base addresses”) be used. During bus resets, however, node base addresses are subject to change. Therefore, if a bus reset occurs while a bus transaction is pending, the driver that initiated the transaction will be forced to reinitiate the transaction with an updated base address after the bus has reinitialized and a new topology map has been created.”)

Referring to claim 2,

Staats teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein such reconfiguration undertakes to re-establish an existing mapping pattern of logical identifiers from a hitherto communication-related sub-sets among said nodes, whilst seeking replacement of interrupted communication-relations on a basis of necessity. (col. 5, line 35-46),

Referring to claim 3,

Staats teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein upon detection of an invalid and unrestorable mapping, a network-wide query is undertaken for a replacement target node for effecting such mapping. (col. 5, line 35-46)

Referring to claim 4,

Staats teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said subset is made up of only one physical nodes of the network. (col. 5, line 4-27)

Referring to claim 5,

Staats teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said network is based on IEEE 1394 or USB. (col. 5, line 47-49)

Referring to claim 6,

Claim 6 is a claim to a system being arranged for implementing a method as claimed in claim 1. Therefore claim 6 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

Referring to claim 7,

Claim 7 is a claim to an apparatus being arranged for operating as a node station in a system as claimed in claim 6. Therefore claim 7 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 6.

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses,

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to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp


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